

**A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF ASSERTIVE UTTERANCES IN
AUNG SAN SUU KYI'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Bachelor Degree of Education
in English Department**

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APPROVAL

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A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF ASSERTIVE UTTERANCES IN AUNG SAN SUU KYI'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

Abstrak

Penelitian ini berfokus pada ekspresi tegas yang diucapkan oleh Aung San Suu Kyi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan jenis fokus ekspresi tegas, menemukan implikatur dari ekspresi tegas, dan menjelaskan pelanggaran maxim. Data yang digunakan merupakan kalimat yang mengandung ekspresi tegas yang diucapkan oleh Aung San Suu Kyi dalam wawancara dengan kantor berita BBC berjudul "*State Counsellor: Some Success, But We Are Not Home and Dry Yet*" dan situs kantor berita NHK World Japan berjudul *Exclusive: Interview with Aung San Suu Kyi*". Peneliti menganalisa jenis fokus ekspresi tegas menggunakan teori dari Kreidler, menganalisa implikatur menggunakan teori dari Grice serta teori Brown dan Levinson untuk menganalisa konteks percakapan, dan juga teori dari Grice untuk menganalisa pelanggaran maxim. Temuan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa (1) Fokus ekspresi yang paling sering digunakan adalah fokus pada informasi, fokus pada cara penyampaian informasi, dan fokus pada aspek. (2) Hasil dari penelitian menunjukkan bahwa implikatur yang paling sering digunakan oleh Aung San Suu Kyi adalah implikatur konvensional sebesar sebab pembaca dapat menerjemahkan ekspresi secara langsung berdasarkan struktur tata bahasa dan kosakata yang digunakan. (3) Terdapat dua pelanggaran maxim yang menunjukkan hasil yang seimbang yaitu pelanggaran maxim kuantitas dan pelanggaran maxim sikap.

Kata Kunci: tegas, tindak tutur, pragmatic, aung san suu kyi.

Abstract

This research focuses on assertive utterances which are uttered by Aung San Suu Kyi. The aims of this study are to describe the types of focuses of assertive utterance, to describe the implicature of assertive utterance, and to explain the maxim flouted. The data are taken from utterances containing assertives which are uttered by Aung San Suu Kyi in the BBC news entitled "*State Counsellor: Some Success, But We Are Not Home and Dry Yet*", and NHK World Japan news website entitled "*Exclusive: Interview with Aung San Suu Kyi*". The researcher uses Kreidler's theory to analyze the focuses of assertive utterance, Grice's theory of implicature and Brown and Levinson's theory of speech context, and also Grice's theory to identify the flouting maxim. The findings of this research show that (1) Types of focuses found are focus of information, focus on manner of communicating, and focus on the aspect. (2) The most dominant implicature found in the interview done by Aung San Suu Kyi is conventional implicature because the reader can make their own interpretation directly from the grammatical form and vocabulary. (3) There are two flouting maxims which have equal amount namely, flouting maxim of quantity and flouting maxim of manner.

Keywords: assertive, speech act, pragmatic, aung san suu kyi.

1. INTRODUCTION

An interview is a purposeful exchange of ideas, the answering of questions and communication between two or more person (Scott cited in Murugesan, 2011:49). An interview can provide accurate information needed. It is useful to deepen understanding the issues, discover people way of thinking, and obtain personal reasons behind certain opinions. There are few types of interviews: In-person, Phone Interview, Second Interview, Group or Panel Interview. Recently, Aung San Suu Kyi was interviewed using the in-person interview. The in-person interview is a one-on-one interview which tends to gain depth information from the respondent. Moreover, to gain a better understanding, the researcher uses pragmatic theory, especially speech act theory to analyze the utterances.

Pragmatics is a study of interpretation the intention of the speaker, or what the speaker wants to say based on the context. Yule (1996:3) points out that pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). The meaning can be interpreted depending on the place, the time, the person they are talking to, and the situation. Pragmatics occurs with a new way of looking at things from a linguistic point of view. Verschueren in Mey (2001:9) characterized pragmatics as a general cognitive, social, and cultural perspective on linguistic phenomena in relation to their usage in forms of behavior.

An assertive utterance is statements that can be verified as true or false. This is in line with Searle (1979:12); he argues that assertive class is assessable on the dimension of assessment which includes true and false. Assertive utterances focus on information, the truth-value of the utterance, speaker's or involvement in what is reported, manner of communicating, nature of message, and focus on aspect.

Implicature is a proof that words are more than just words mean. The listener has to assume that the speaker is being cooperative and intends to communicate something (Yule,1996:35). Implicature is used to communicate meaning by the speaker, while inference is used to determinate the communicated meanings. The selected inferences will retain the cooperation

assumption. Implicature has two types, they are conversational and conventional. Conventional implicatures interpretation does not depend on the particular context, and not always occur in the conversation. While in conversational implicature, it is important to note that it is speakers who communicate meaning via implicatures and it is listeners who recognize those communicated meaning via inference. The assumption which drawn will strengthen the inferences selected. The assumption of cooperation is so pervasive which can be stated as the cooperative principle and elaborated in four sub-principles called maxims.

Grice (1975:45) states that cooperative principle makes the conversational contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which is engaged. A cooperative principle is a part of conversational implicature. Grice in Nurzani (2015:30) stated conversational implicature is signed by exploitation (apparent flouting) or observation of the cooperative principle and a set of maxims. Grice (1975:45) mentions four maxims: Quantity, Quality, Relation, and Manner. Some participants failed to observe maxim because they have their own interpretation. It is called flouting. Black (2006:25) stated flouting is the most interesting way of breaking maxim. The reason is that of the speaker aware of the cooperative principle and in flouting the maxim.

This research is different from related researches in this topic. The researcher finds differences with researches that conducted by Fahmi (2015) and Ramos (2016). Fahmi (2015) aimed to know the role of Aung San Suu Kyi in The Lady through liberal feminism perspective. The result shows that Aung San Suu Kyi is a prove that she can beat people who underestimate her. She can be a leader, as a family woman. She takes role in politics and government. She become a leader in big party in Burma, the first woman prime minister in Asia, and a Nobel peace prize. Besides, she is a wife and a mother of two.

While, in Ramos (2016), the researcher is attempts to voice the imprisoned activist and political leader's opinion for a better future for her

citizens. The result shows that Aung San Suu Kyi's only has strong intention to help and encourage Burmese people to fight against the current authoritarian situation. She is eager to initiate the ultimatum among the citizens and lead it. She wants to change it and create a free life for the people. She perfectly keeps her hope high for a brighter future.

In conclusion, this research is different from two examples above. Fahmi's (2015) research is focuses on the feminism side. Furthermore, the data is the movie entitled *The Lady*. While, Ramos (2016) focus on find out the way she appreciates free society and emphasis the urgent need for freedom. Otherwise, this research is tries to classify the focus of assertive utterance, the implicature of assertive utterance, and the flouting maxim of assertive utterance in the utterance which uttered by Aung San Suu Kyi. The data source of this research is BBC and NHK interview transcript. The researcher hopes that this research can be a complement and can be used as a reference with the previous studies.

The researcher is interested in analysing the utterance that produced by Aung San Suu Kyi through pragmatic theory. The reason is in recent years there has been an increasing number of news about the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar. One of the responsible, in that case, is Aung San Suu Kyi, the State Counsellor of Myanmar. As a state counselor, she injudiciously giving information to the media, most of the information given only bring benefit to the governments' side. At the same time, Suu Kyi is one of Nobel Peace Prize receiver, where she is in position for making peace as expected. Therefore, many of her fellow noble receivers are furious due to the fact that she failed to prevent the violence and they also made a petition to take back her noble peace prize.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is conducted to classify the focus of assertive utterance, to analyze the implicature of assertive utterances and also to find the flouting maxim found in Aung San Suu Kyi interview entitled **"A Pragmatic Analysis of Assertive Utterances in Aung San Suu Kyi's Exclusive Interview"**.

2. METHOD

The type of this research is descriptive qualitative research. The object of this research is the assertive utterances found in interview transcript between Aung San Suu Kyi and BBC & NHK's reporter. The data of this research are utterances contain assertive which uttered by Aung San Suu Kyi in the BBC news entitled "*State Counsellor: Some Success, But We Are Not Home and Dry Yet*", and NHK World Japan news website entitled "*Exclusive: Interview with Aung San Suu Kyi*". The data sources are Myanmar State Counsellor website and NHK World.

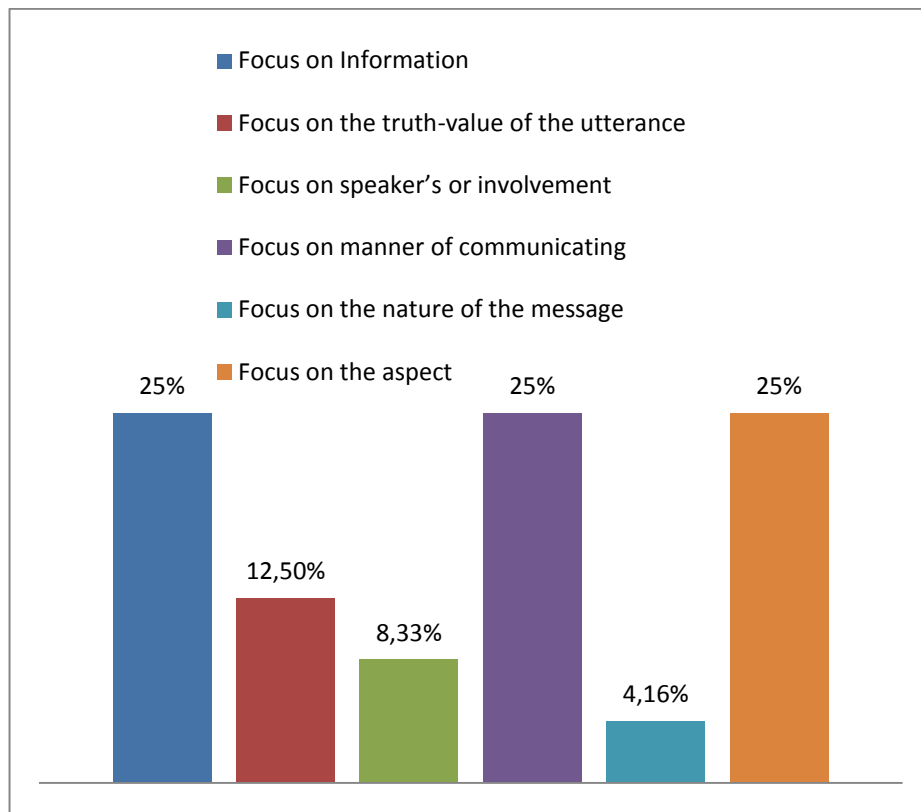
The researcher use documentation and observation to collect the data. The researcher searches Aung San Suu Kyi's interview transcript. Then, the researcher downloads all the interview transcript from Myanmar State Counsellor website and NHK Japan World website. Next, the researcher reads all the interview transcript. Next, the researcher marks and collects the utterances which contain assertive utterances. Last, the researcher gives codes to each assertive utterance. For method of analysing the data the researcher identify the types of focus in utterance which contain assertive speech act in interviews transcript from BBC and NHK, then describe the implicature and the speech context of each assertive utterance by referring Grice's theory and Brown & Levinson's theory. Then, the researcher explains the flouting maxim in each assertive utterance by referring theory of flouting maxim from Grice. Eventually, the researcher draws the conclusion.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

There are 24 data of assertive utterances which found in the interview script between Aung San Suu Kyi and BBC news and NHK news. The data are the types of focuses of assertive utterance, the types of implicature, and the flouting maxim in the assertive utterances.

3.1 Focuses of Assertive Utterance

The number of focuses of assertive utterance is showed in the table below:

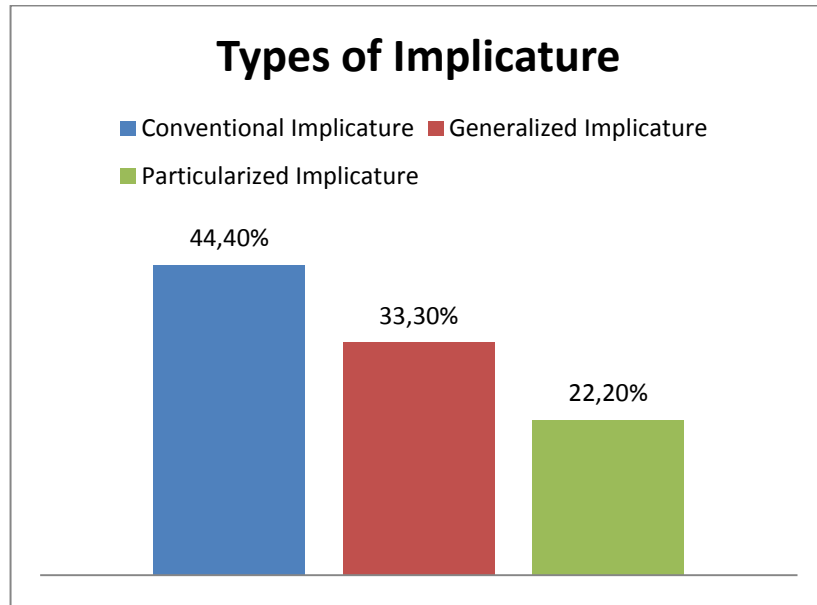


Picture 1. Chart Percentage of Focus of Assertive Utterances

Based on the table above, the researcher found six types of focuses assertives utterances. There are three types of focus who have equal result, namely focus on information, focus on manner of communicating, and focus on aspect with the persentage for each type is 25% (6 data). Then, there are 3 data of focus on truth-value of the utterances with the percentage of 12,5%. Next, there are 2 data of focus on the speaker's or involvement with the percentage 8,33%. Lastly, there is only 1 datum of focus on the nature of the message with the percentage 4,16%. Focus of on information, on manner of communicating, and on aspect show equal findings in the research

3.2 The Implicature of Assertive Utterances

The number of implicature of assertive utterance is showed in the table below:

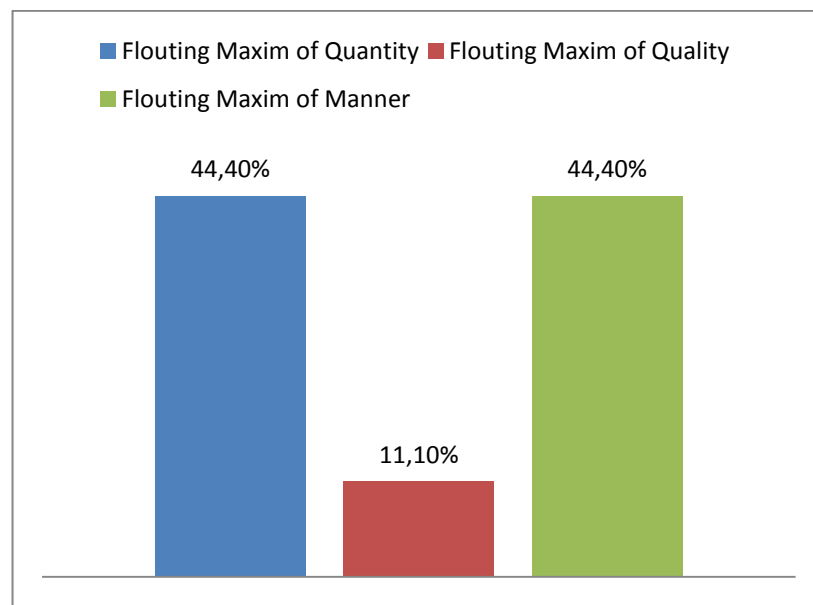


Picture 2. Chart Percentage of Implicature

Based on the table above, the researcher found three types of implicature namely conversational implicature, generalized implicature, and particularized implicature. The most dominant implicature used in the interview script is conventional implicature who has four data with the total percentage of 45%. Furthermore, there is generalized implicature who has three data with the percentage of 33%. Lastly, particularized implicature which has two data with the percentage of 22%. The most dominant implicature found in the interview done by Aung San Suu Kyi is conventional implicature because the reader can make their own interpretation directly from the grammatical form and vocabulary.

3.3 The Flouting Maxim

The number of flouting maxim of assertive utterance is showed in the table below:



Picture 3. Chart Percentage of The Flouting Maxim

Based on the table above, the researcher found three types of flouting maxim included into Flouting Maxim of Quantity, Flouting Maxim of Quality, and Flouting Maxim of Manner. There are two flouting maxim which has equal amount 4 data or 44,4% namely, flouting maxim of quantity and flouting maxim of manner. Then, the least maxim which flouted is maxim of quality with 1 datum or 11,1%. It is because Aung San Suu Kyi produces an inaccurate statement which the opposite of the reality.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the data above, the researcher found six types of focuses of assertive utterance. The types are focus on information, focus on truth-value of the utterances, focus on the speaker's or involvement, focus on manner of communicating, focus on the nature of the message and focus on aspect. There are three focuses which has equal amount, namely focus of on information, on manner of communicating, and on aspect. It shows that Aung San Suu Kyi shows cooperative attitude in deliver the information to the hearer by giving decent answer to most question. Furthermore, Aung San Suu Kyi wants to convince the hearer that every information is true but those which in contrast are wrong.

Then, the researcher found three types of implicature namely conversational implicature, generalized implicature, and particularized implicature. The most dominant implicature which used in the interview script is conventional implicature which consist of four data with the total percentage of 45%. The result indicates that Aung San Suu Kyi mostly uses general context and shares same background knowledge with the hearer in aswering the interview questions. Besides, she aims to clarify the issues by giving understadable answers to the audience. Therefore, the point of the message could be comprehend completely.

Lastly, the researcher found three types of flouting maxim namely flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of quality, and flouting maxim of manner. Flouting maxim consist of 4 data or 44,4% which equal to flouting maxim of quantity and flouting maxim of manner. The result shows that Aung San Suu Kyi is being inconsistent with her answers. She produces unclear and inaccurate statements which the opposite of the reality. It shows that Aung San Suu Kyi wants tho hide the actual situation which happening in Myanmar.

In conclusion, Aung San Suu Kyi is trying to convince the hearer that the informations which she delivers are true. At the same time, the news are spreading all over the word which make Suu Kyi and the hearer share the same background knowledge. Threfore, the hearer knows the real condition that happening in Myanmar. As a result, it is obvious that Aung San Suu Kyi is made up a story to hide the actual situation which happening in Myanmar.

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